

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 26, 2003**

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# **SAN CARLOS RESIDENT CONVICTED OF AGGRAVATED SEXUAL ABUSE**

**PHOENIX, ARIZONA** -- The United States Attorney's Office for the District of Arizona announced that on March 25, 2003, Rodolfo Garcia, DOB 8/30/71, a resident of San Carlos, Arizona, was found guilty of three counts of Abusive Sexual Contact and one count of Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Minor by a federal jury at Phoenix, Arizona.

The evidence at trial showed the defendant who is not a member of the San Carlos Tribe molested a ten year old San Carlos Tribe member on multiple occasions in 2001 and had sexual intercourse with her. The defendant also threatened the child not to tell anyone about the molestations. Two other girls who were also members of the San Carlos Tribe, aged 12 and 13 at the time of the molestations, testified the defendant molested them and made threats to hurt them if they told anyone. The oldest girl finally disclosed to a school counselor that the defendant physically abused her and later that same day disclosed the sexual abuse. The other two girls made statements subsequent to the disclosure by the oldest girl.

Rodolfo Garcia had been charged with violating Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 2241(c) and 2244(c). The case was tried before United States District Court Judge Mary H. Murguia on

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March 18, 2003. The defendant was remanded to the custody of the U.S. Marshal Service after he was convicted of the charges described above.

A conviction for Aggravated Sexual Abuse of a Minor carries a maximum penalty of life in prison and a \$ 250,000 fine. Sentencing is set before Judge Mary H. Murguia on June 9, 2003.

The investigation leading to the guilty verdict was conducted by the San Carlos Tribal Police and the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The prosecution is being handled by Dyanne Greer and John Johnson, Assistant United States Attorneys, District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona.

CASE NUMBER: CR-02-796-PHX-MHM  
RELEASE NUMBER: 2003-041

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